

09/619,669
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REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116, since no new claims are presented, no new issues are raised, and the only claim amendments place the remaining claims into condition for immediate allowance.

It is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Claims 1-20 and 27 are all of the claims pending in the present Application. Claims 21-26 are canceled. All remaining claims are allowed.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-20 and 27, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frederick E. Cooperrider
Reg. No. 36,769

Date: 2/6/04

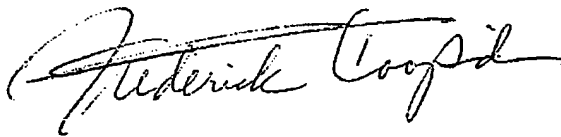
McGinn & Gibb, P.C.
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, Virginia 22182
(703) 761-4100
Customer N . 21254

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R § 1.116 by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Dilinh P. Nguyen, Group Art Unit 2814 at fax number (703) 872-9306 this 6th day of February, 2004.



Frederick E. Cooperrider
Registration No. 36,769